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|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|------------|-------|--------------------------------|------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | US 5161579 A | 19921110 | 17 | Leveling valve for air springs | 137/627.5 | 261/80; 267/64.18; | | Anderson, Jr., Henry M. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

EAST SEARCH

9/30/02

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Ready NUM

US-PAT-NO: 4733876
DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 4733876 A
TITLE: Suspension and leveling system for a vehicle
DATE-ISSUED: March 29, 1988

INVENTOR-INFORMATION:

| NAME | CITY | STATE | ZIP CODE | COUNTRY |
|------------------|----------|-------|----------|---------|
| Heider, Merte J. | Humboldt | IA | 50548 | N/A |
| Heider, Dale J. | Humboldt | IA | 50548 | N/A |
| Heider, Leon J. | Humboldt | IA | 50548 | N/A |

APPL-NO: 06/942606
DATE FILED: December 17, 1986

INT-CL: [04] B60G017/04
US-CL-ISSUED: 280/6H, 280/712, 280/DIG.1
US-CL-CURRENT: 280/6.158, 280/124.116, 280/124.163, 280/6.153, 280/DIG.1
FIELD-OF-SEARCH: 280/6R; 280/6H; 280/DIG.1; 280/712; 280/713

REF-CITED:

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|---------|----------------|----------------|-------------------|
| 2949316 | August 1960 | Davies et al. | 280/DIG.1 N/A N/A |
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| 4641843 | February 1987 | Morrisroe, Jr. | 280/6R N/A N/A |

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| FOREIGN-PAT-NO | PUBN-DATE | COUNTRY | US-CL |
|----------------|--------------|---------|---------|
| 2141677 | January 1985 | GB | 280/712 |

ART-UNIT: 316
PRIMARY-EXAMINER: Weaver, Ross

ABSTRACT:

The suspension system of the present invention includes an elongated spring having one end attached to the vehicle frame and having a second end. A pneumatic bag includes an upper end which is attached to the vehicle frame and a lower end. A securing bracket attaches the lower end of the bag and the second end of the elongated spring to the axle so that the weight of the vehicle frame above the axle is supported in combination by the spring and the air bag. A pneumatic control system is in communication with the bag for selectively introducing air to the bag so as to control the pressure within the bag and thereby control the height that the bag supports the vehicle frame above the

United States Patent (19)

Heider et al.

[11] Patent Number: 4,733,876

[45] Date of Patent: Mar. 29, 1988

[54] SUSPENSION AND LEVELING SYSTEM FOR A VEHICLE

[76] Inventors: Merte J. Heider, 203-12th St., SW,
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[21] Appl. No. 942,606

[22] Filed: Dec. 17, 1986

[31] Int. Cl. B60G 17/04

[32] U.S. Cl. 280/6 H; 280/712; 280/DIG. 1

[58] Field of Search: 280/6 R, 6 H, DIG. 1, 280/712, 713

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Primary Examiner—Ross Weaver

Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Zarley McKee, Thomas, Voorhees & Sease

[57] ABSTRACT

The suspension system of the present invention includes an elongated spring having one end attached to the vehicle frame and having a second end. A pneumatic bag includes an upper end which is attached to the vehicle frame and a lower end. A securing bracket attaches the lower end of the bag and the second end of the elongated spring to the axle so that the weight of the vehicle frame above the axle is supported in combination by the spring and the air bag. A pneumatic control system is in communication with the bag for selectively introducing air to the bag so as to control the pressure within the bag and thereby control the height that the bag supports the vehicle frame above the axle. A stabilizer bar is pivotally connected at one end to the vehicle frame and at the other end to the axle so as to cause the vehicle frame to be centered over the axle while at the same time permitting the vehicle frame to move vertically with respect to the axle. The control means includes both manual and automatic control valves for controlling the height of the frame above the axle. Electrical switches are connected to solenoids for controlling the valves so as to permit the raising and lowering of the vehicle frame with respect to the axle.

10 Claims, 8 Drawing Figures

